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THE ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

BOSTON, MASS., MAY, 1869.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

We are agreeably surprised to find that so much interest is felt in the cause of Peace at the West, and that so many there are disposed to labor for it. From letters recently received at our Western office, we make the following extracts showing how some men feel on this subject:

"Although but little acquainted with the specific plans of your Society, the principle is most positively Christian, and I am much interested in its success. I am satisfied by my experience, as a soldier in the Army of the Cumberland, that even a good cause will not prevent the demoralizing efforts of war; and I am sure that until our churches accept *all* of Christianity, and recognize, at least, in every believer, a brother sustaining toward us to some extent the relation of Christ, 'inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these, ye did it unto me,' our victories will never be completed. They will be mere interminable efforts, without the permanent conquest of which we know the perfect Gospel of Christ is capable.

God bless your effort, is the prayer of your
Brother in Christ, J. S."

"I shall be ready to begin by preaching in this place about a week from next Sabbath. I am trying to conceive a plan or method by which the masses can be reached; a scheme which, after being idealized, can be realized in practice. I may be too sanguine; but it does seem to me, that a cause which has money, morality and religion on its side, gain, godliness and humanity, a cause whose living soul is kindled by love to man, honor to Christ, and glory to God, *can* be made to reach and move the million. I am amazed that even the *Christian* press does not even hint a desire that we as a nation should be peaceful, and long suffering as Christ commands. I am confounded at myself that, after all my convictions of what is, and what is not, compatible with the divine philosophy of Jesus Christ, I should have allowed myself to be so far carried down the dark tide whose gory stream flows from this world's crimson code. I shall put my shoulder under the load in the name of God and humanity, and hope to the end. It is in this spirit I have consented to work for a compensation so small for the present while the Society is poor.

Yours in Peace, M. B."

"I have long thought on the cause in which you are engaged. It is of vital importance. I was Chaplain in the Army, and from personal experience know the horrors of war. The Editor of the 'Advocate of Peace' has been sending it to me. I have been reading it, and have longed to do something for the cause. If you will give me your system, and I can be sustained in the work, there is no cause in which I would sooner engage. I have been disabled, stricken down in time of battle, have held the heads of bleeding victims when they died on the gory field of strife. Ah, more! I had one son forced into the Rebel service, and killed at the battle of Chickamauga; another enlisted in Indiana, and died in the Hospital at St. Louis; while a third, my only living child, was wounded, and still suffers from its effects. Oh! think of the horrors of war. Brothers arrayed against brothers in deadly combat, and without their will or consent.

Brother Lord, give me permission, and I am ready to commence. I have studied the prophecies, and a reign of universal peace *must* come.

Yours truly, D. C."

"The times," says one of our Western Lecturing Agents to the Secretary here, "are opportune for publishing the doctrines of peace. In the past ten days I have raised about \$55 for peace literature, and donations for the cause, and pledges for about \$70 more. *The people are weary of the burden and evils of war*, and are eager to hear of a balm for the bleeding world. It can be found in our righteous cause. Then, I say, oh that Christians would be in earnest to declare by word and deed that their Master is the Prince of Peace. Who can hold his heart, his hand or his money from this work of God and humanity?"

W. G. H.

THE NEW POLICY TOWARDS OUR INDIANS.—We are glad to find our new President inclined to employ Quakers in dealing with our Indians. They have always been true as a body to the peaceful and eminently successful policy of William Penn; and we cannot doubt that the same policy, if fairly and fully carried out, will insure in time permanent peace between us and our red brethren. It is certainly more than time to try some experiment of the kind; and too much praise cannot well be awarded to the Quakers for their willingness to undertake the service "without money and without price."

We find, since the above was in type, the following statement from Washington, April 29:—The President has designated the following named gentlemen to act as members of an unpaid commission of ten to aid him and the Interior Department in carrying out his Indian policy: E. S. Tobey of Boston, William E. Dodge of New York, George H. Stuart of Philadelphia, William Welsh of Philadelphia, John Brunnow of Pittsburgh, J. F. Farwell of Chicago, Robert Campbell of St. Louis. Two or three other gentlemen may be appointed in the course of a month or two to complete the commission. These gentlemen will give the principal part of their services this season to the work in the Sioux reservation on the upper Missouri River. Two of them are to meet General Parker, the Commissioner of the Indian Bureau, in New York to-morrow, whither he goes to make the usual spring purchases. The commissions for the Quakers who have been appointed, and confirmed as Indian agents, will be forwarded to them early next week, and they will be expected immediately thereafter to go to their respective fields of labor. The Hicksite branch of the society has the Nebraska superintendency. Each body will appoint from its own members an inspector, who serves without pay from the government, and whose duty will be to go about among the Quaker agents, and report on their doings to the society and President Grant.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION:

ITS GENERAL ADOPTION BY NATIONS.

One of the most cheering signs of the times is the increasing frequency with which differences between nations, in respect to which formerly no decision would have been thought possible but an appeal to the sword, are referred to arbitration, or the mediation of friendly Powers. And still more encouraging is the distinct and emphatic recog-

nition of the value of this principle on the part of many of our foremost statesmen. Nothing could be more explicit than the language of Lord Clarendon on this point, when, in answer to the Memorial of the Committee of the Peace Society, he said "he fully concurred with the Committee in this opinion, that it is desirable to have recourse to arbitration, wherever practicable, for the adjustment of international differences, and was glad to believe that the principle of arbitration is becoming recognized as the most honorable and equitable solution of many difficult and important questions."

Equally gratifying were the words uttered by Mr. Gladstone at the opening of Parliament, *opropos* of the Greco-Turkish question. It is known to our readers how the relations between Greece and Turkey had become so full of danger, arising immediately out of the recent insurrection in Crete, that war at one time seemed inevitable. But at the height of the crisis, a Conference of the Great Powers was, on the suggestion of Prussia, called together at Paris, to consider whether some means could not be discovered of arresting the outbreak that was so imminent. The representatives of England, France, Russia, Austria, Prussia, and Italy, accordingly met, and agreed to certain resolutions which were to be submitted to Greece for her acceptance; and notwithstanding the forebodings of certain prophets of evil, who appear to take a delight in anticipating the failure of all peaceful negotiations, those resolutions have been accepted, and the peril is, for the present at least, past.

It was in reference to this transaction that the Prime Minister made the remarks to which we refer. After describing how matters stood at the time he was speaking, he added: "I cannot, however, pass from this portion of the Speech without permitting to myself the satisfaction of dwelling for a moment on these transactions. It is not for the purpose of claiming any special credit for the policy or government of this country; it is rather to record and take note of what appears to me to be some real advance in civilization. Here is a case in which two Powers, exasperated by traditional animosities, were on the point of resorting to the arbitration of force and bloodshed, and yet in which the employment of a purely moral interference has been sufficient to avert the calamity of war. Now, I am quite convinced that, if both sides of this House are animated by one sentiment more unequivocally than another, it is by the wish that we should make progress in gradually establishing in Europe a state of opinion which should favor a common action of the Powers to avert the terrible calamity of war. What is required for such a purpose is the absence of intrigue, and a repudiation, on the part of the Powers engaged, of all narrow and selfish views; and it is but justice to the Powers which were engaged in this transaction that, on my own part and that of my colleagues, I should acknowledge the singleness of purpose, the singleness of devotion to one common object, by which all those Powers were actuated."

We regret that we cannot report an equally satisfactory issue of the negotiations between our own Government and that of the United States, for referring to arbitration the questions in dispute between them, arising out of the late civil war in America. The Convention framed for this end between our own Foreign Minister and the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, the American Ambassador in this country, has been rejected by the United States Committee for Foreign Affairs, and will, there can be little doubt, be also rejected by the Senate. We fear the burden of this failure must, ultimately, be laid at the door of Earl Russell. It is with great reluctance that we apply the language of censure to so distinguished and venerable a statesman. But we are

bound to express our conviction that his administration of our foreign affairs was marked by a series of disastrous blunders. Not the least important of these were those he committed in connection with American affairs. Not to advert to the fact, that it was during his reign at the Foreign Office that the *Alabama*, the principal cause of the mischief, was permitted to escape from Liverpool, notwithstanding the timely and repeated warnings as to her real character given by the American Minister, we cannot but regard it as a matter of useless regret, that when Mr. Seward proposed to refer the question of the *Alabama* and her depredations, simple and pure, to "any form of arbitration,"—for such were the words he used,—Lord Russell peremptorily, and in very haughty and imperious terms, rejected the proposal. That was a question partly of law and partly of fact, that was eminently fitted for arbitration. But not only did the ungracious refusal of their friendly overture by Earl Russell irritate the American Government and people, but it gave Mr. Seward an advantage, of which he was not slow to avail himself. For when, on the accession of Lord Stanley to office, our Government re-opened the question, by making on our part the very offer which Earl Russell had previously refused, it was found that Mr. Seward had enlarged his demand, and required that the propriety of the recognition of a state of belligerency in the United States should be one of the points of the reference.

We have no official cognizance, at present, of the reasons assigned by the American Government for rejecting the Convention; but, if we may trust the unofficial utterances of the press, it seems to spring much more from passion than principle. The explanation by the New York correspondent of the *Daily News*, is this:—"The plain truth is, the people do not want to have the *Alabama* controversy closed, but desire two things—to have Mr. Johnson recalled, and have the *Alabama* controversy left open indefinitely. The more bitter and hot-headed portion of the public would like it to be as it is, till England is involved in a war, and then let slip plenty of Alabamas and Shendoahs; have the District-Attorney fall sick; the Secretary of State leave the British Minister to furnish evidence amounting to proof, and the collector of this port let cruisers run down this bay; and so on, repeating the English performances as nearly as circumstances will permit."

It is rather humbling to the dignity of human nature to see how much like factious and petulant children great communities can behave, even when questions of most momentous import are at stake. Still more melancholy it is to observe how thoroughly our international morality is imbued with the Pagan rather than the Christian spirit. Is it not pitiful to see, according to the writer we have quoted, even the soberer and more intelligent of American citizens stand off pouting when the hand of conciliation is sincerely and almost persistently held out to them, lest it should be "humiliating" for them to make peace? And is it not worse than pitiful to see another portion of a professedly Christian community refusing to adopt the proposed means for closing a dangerous quarrel, not because they object to the means themselves, but lest they should lose their opportunity of revenge? Not that we, as a nation, have any right to moralize or lecture others on these points, for we have too often sinned by the display of a similar spirit of mingled puerility and Paganism, which we have dignified with the name of national honor.

For the present, we can only hope that the good sense and the Christian feeling which surely we have a right to assume do exist largely in these two great communities, will suffice to hold in check those weak or wicked elements in the population which reckon not, so they may indulge their passions, to hazard the unspeakable scandal and calamity of

a war between Great Britain and the United States.—*London Herald of Peace.*

We heartily join in our friend's regret, that our controversy with England, growing out of our late rebellion, still remains unsettled; but we cannot have his fears of its leading to war. The general mind in this country has not thought of its ever coming to such a result. The suspense is very liable to keep up a suspicious, if not an angry state of feeling which all good men must lament; but unless England shall act much worse on the subject than she has yet done, or is likely ever to do, the public opinion here which virtually controls our government, will insure in any event a peaceful adjustment of the controversy. There may be delay; but we think such delay will lead to a more satisfactory settlement.

We think it untrue, that we wish to keep the question open as a threat of retaliation upon England at some future day. The mass of our people, especially those whose influence now rules in our government, have no such wish or thought. They do, indeed, think that England was flagrantly in the wrong in her treatment of us during our late rebellion, and well deserving to suffer the recoil of her own principles upon herself; but they have no desire to see her suffer thus, and still less do they court an opportunity of wreaking vengeance for the injustice and mischief she did us in the hour of our national agony. Such feelings are mainly in a different class of our citizens, now happily in a hopeless minority—the slave-holding rebels whom England did so much to help ruin our Republic, and the Irishmen among us who seem saturated with an ever-active, insatiable hostility to the British government. The *N. Y. World*, from which our friend quotes, has been all along the organ of such men; a journal in full sympathy with our rebels during and since their rebellion; a journal that misrepresents on most questions both our government, and the mass of our people. Such a paper cannot be accepted here, and ought not to be in England, as a reliable exponent of the public opinion that is likely to rule in our government.

Our friends in England will in time learn where the shoe pinches in this case. It is not so much the injury, however wide-spread and long continued, to our commerce by the piratical ships sent forth from her ports, manned by her seamen, and furnished chiefly with her money, as it is the fact, that her government, by conceding in such hot haste belligerent rights to our rebels, did all it could, short of open war against us, to insure the triumph of their rebellion, and the overthrow of our Republic. Here was "the head and front of her offending." Every loyal man in the land felt it at the time as a stab at the nation's life, *meant to be fatal*; and to this hour it rankles, as it will for ages, in the heart of our people. They will never forget it; it is hard for them to forgive it; and they ought never to cease from abhorring it.

Now, our people are not willing to let England cover up this great wrong by merely paying in part, or in whole, for her injuries to our commerce. She deliberately did us the wrong, and persisted in it. She violated both the spirit and

the letter of her treaty obligations to us. She did just what she would *not* have us do to her in like circumstances. Our treatment of *her* in the case of her difficulties with Canada, of Ireland and India was the very reverse of what she did to us in this case; and she ought not to evade the duty of confessing her wrong by any amount of compensation she may make for the pecuniary losses we have suffered at her hands.

Few of our sober people would counsel or tolerate any schemes of retaliation for what we have suffered; but they *are* strenuous in demanding, that the principle involved shall be distinctly brought forward, and settled in the final adjustment. England by her conduct claims the right, when a government in friendship with her has a serious difficulty with a part of its own subjects, to recognize these malcontents, banded together for its overthrow or dismemberment, as belligerents, with all the powers and immunities of war, especially the privilege of committing havoc, bloodshed and all manner of crimes with entire impunity. We protest against such a course as utterly wrong, and insist that England shall voluntarily confess the wrong, or submit the question how far it is wrong, to the decision of umpires. If it be right, we want to know it; and if wrong, we want England to make due amends, as far as she can, for the injury she did us during our rebellion.

The above article was put in type for the last *Advocate*, but omitted for want of room.

OUR CLAIMS ON ENGLAND.

SENATOR SUMNER'S SPEECH ON THE SUBJECT.

We have never had serious fears that our pending difficulties with England would ever lead to war; but we are not at all disappointed to find the controversy protracted, and the Johnson-Clarendon treaty rejected in our Senate by an overwhelming majority. This action, however, is not regarded here, and ought not to be in England, as an omen of war, or as indicating among the mass of our people any thought of appealing to the sword for a final adjustment of the points in issue. They are almost universally dissatisfied, but expect in time satisfaction by peaceful means.

As we may publish entire Mr. Sumner's Speech, we will only give now extracts from the press to show his views on the subject, and how they are received here by all parties.

THE SECULAR PRESS.—The *Washington Chronicle* in an editorial written by Gen. Cushing says: "Now for the first time Great Britain receives a distinct impression of the nature and consequences of her hostile intervention in the affairs of the United States. We do not conceal from ourselves the serious aspect of this fact, but we believe that instead of tending to embitter the relations of the two governments, it will have the contrary effect. At first, and especially while imperfectly understood by mere telegraphic reports it may produce an explosion of anger in the press and Parliament of England; but all such effervescence there will be temporary and transient. It will be advantageous to thoughtful men in England, as it is here, to look the true facts straight in the face. We shall gain nothing on either side by under-estimating their impor-